

Attention FDA

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It came to my attention that the FDA is being asked to take away my right to sign a medical waiver before purchasing a hearing aid. Instead I would be forced to have a medical exam or hearing test. Here's my views and/or experiences on several related questions?

1. Should I be forced to have a medical exam and/or hearing test before purchasing a hearing aid? If so, should the FDA pay for the exam?

Not if you have had a previous exam, I have had two exams and feel I should be able to purchase an hearing aid within a short period of time.

2. Some people are physically unable to drive to a doctor or hearing specialist, or have had bad experiences they don't want to repeat. For instance...

I am not free to come and go and please we only have one car and my son works long hours so I have to have a special day, his day off if I have to go some place.

3. Should the FDA take away my Constitutional Right, affirmed by the Supreme Court, to decide for myself my medical exams and treatment?

No I don't think so especially when you usually have the first exam, to find out how bad the situation is.

Because you shouldn't wait ten years between exams.

4. Should I be allowed to purchase hearing aids by mail as I choose?

I think so if your hearing loss is not caused by a disease etc. If you can be helped by a small in the ear piece I can see no reason why you shouldn't do it.

Signed by: Loraine E. Beckman Date: 3/2/2000

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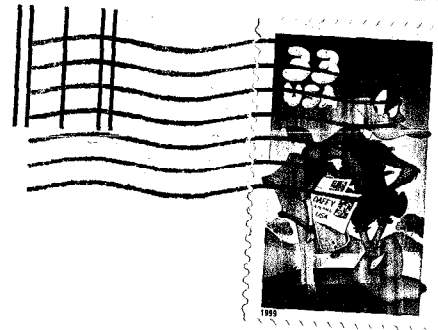
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